

Thorndon Parish Council 2.10.2014
County Councillor Report

Small Business links

Since our last meeting, the County has organised a major supplier event, to allow the showcasing of the councils procurement strategy, and start the process of small and medium enterprises in Suffolk to develop local supply chains. The first event is on October 1st (yesterday).

Local Growth Deal

The New Anglia Growth Deal, was announced in the summer and contains a number of important infrastructure investments.

£10m for Process engineering in Lowestoft;

£6.5m in a higher skills science and technology management centre at the College of West Anglia;

£2.5m in construction and Agritech facilities at Easton and Otley College;

This investment is also going to be linked to Suffolk County Councils new policy to seriously encourage Agricultural entrepreneurs to make use of our 13000 acre County Farms asset.

Further info www.newanglia.co.uk/find-out-about-us/our-aims-and-how-we-do-it-priorities/skills/

North of the Border

With all the political engagement that came together in Scotland, and the promise of maximum devolution north of the border, it is worth noting that more people live in East Anglia than Scotland and a bill is about to go to parliament urging a new settlement for England. This bill can be found http://www.grahamallenmp.co.uk/news/2014/07/09/Local_Government_Independence_Bill

Concern Over Care Home Report

The County Council has called into account a care home now run by Care UK Highlighted in a recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) report published last month.

The home, on St Johns Road Close Mildenhall was found not to have met four out of five standards inspected by the CQC. Enforcement action was taken against the four month old home after inspectors judged it was not providing safe and appropriate care for residents.

Call bells took up to 22 minutes to be answered while staffing levels and patient record keeping was not up to scratch. Diabetic patients were also put at risk, with the home not providing a suitable diet and monitoring food and fluid intake correctly.

the inspectors found several issues with the home including shortcomings in staff training, and teething issues with the equipment at the home – in particular the call bell system and the computerised care records.

Many of these were a result of the fact that the home had only been open for six weeks and have now been rectified, however it does pose concerns regarding the wholesale outsourcing to Care UK, many of those concerns were raised at the time. The Council's Scrutiny Committee will continue to monitor progress.

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